Mrs Mary N. Mealer.

Monroe.

Warren Co.

Georgia.

To Rev. S. Walker.

Onarga March 8th/89.

Dear Mother.

Anna has probably told you that I am back here again. I visited Pittsburg, spoke in several of the large Churches: and presented the needs of Chautauqua at the Ministers meeting. They appointed a committee to work up a meeting of the wealthy Presbyterians of the city at which I am to present the cause and ask them for something like 50 thousand dollars. My thought it would take several weeks to properly prepare for it: So I have come west in the mean time. Shall go back when they are ready. What will come of it I can not say. If we can raise some extra funds, the Board will endow the Company we asked for. A good many young men are offering. We have found three Physicians for Chautauqua. I can not say whether they will all prove worth $. Doctors are such an uncertain quantity.

I came home here with a bad cold in my head. I got it by sleeping in a damp bed in Chicago just before I got here. I am glad I have such a home like place to which I can come. I have been lying most of the time for the week here and am much better. I wish I were stronger however, I think I shall devote the rest of my time chiefly to regaining my strength. You think I had better not go on a farm. Well I have decided nothing yet as to that. I must try in some way to get stronger. I was at Hankakee on Wednesday. Spoke at the Ladies annual praise meeting and in the evening. Mr Mahin there is a very nice man. He is a second cousin of ours. He is an elder and Supt. of the Sunday School. I have not yet made much progress in hunting a wife; but there are plenty yet in the market. The people constantly compliment me highly on my missionary speeches. I hope I may be the means of doing some good while here at home. I have not heard from Calvin for some time. I presume they will not be home till about

August. His printing in Shanghai will take a good while. There is to be an article of mine in the April "Climax" about the reinforcements for Shantung. If you are thinking of going to Mechanicsburg I think you had better manage to board with some one for the present. When are you to go? You ought to have some one to help you fix up the house. I can not do so during April. If you wait till May, I might be with you. I am going to a few meetings during April. I think you had better wait till May when the weather will be pleasant. It is so easy to take cold at such work in April. We nearly all have colds here. Jean has been in bed with one; but is now better. Her cough is gone. Lloyd is also about over his. The weather has been so open and changable. I think you are to be congratulated that you are in a mild climate where I presume the changes do not affect you all so much. I am glad you are so well. I suppose those boys are growing like weeds. If it were not so far

I would go to see Lillie & family. Give them my regards. Jean says "Give you all kisses & love. and tell them to come to see me. Tell Clarence that I have a lot of clothes that are too small for me & he can have them every one. Tell Horace that cousin Jennie sent me a doll at Xmas that looks very much like him. If he will come and see me I shall show it to him" —
She says she is going to write them a letter. She is learning to spell rapidly.
I suppose Dr Kirkwood is about starting to Europe. I am glad he can go. Jennie has been miserable ever since Annie's wedding. Annie & Lizzie seem to be happy. He is talking of going to New Jersey to teach & think it would be a foolish move. I suppose Anna has written you about their decision to go to Missouri and board there for a time till they see whether they like the place. They have not decided when they will go —